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OGC Has Reviewed

1 June 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: The Proposed New Lodge Bill authorizing the establishment of a "Freedom Corps"

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1. At the request of Mr. Goodrich, Assistant General Counsel of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Mr. Pforzheimer (Office of CIA General Counsel), [REDACTED] and the undersigned (CIA/OPC) met with Mr. Goodrich and with Colonels Paley and Swoboda (Department of the Army) in Mr. Goodrich's office on 28 May in order to discuss CIA's interest in the new draft of the Lodge Bill ("Freedom Corps") which General Marshall is having drafted for Senator Lodge.

2. Mr. Goodrich had before him General Smith's letter to General Marshall on the subject of the Lodge Bill, and after explaining that the Department of Defense had been considering their draft bill only as a means of developing manpower for military purposes, he asked the CIA representatives to amplify the general statements in General Smith's letter as to CIA needs and to suggest any changes in the language of the present draft which should be made in order to meet these needs.

3. The present draft of the bill authorizes the enlistment in a "Freedom Corps" of 50,000 aliens, unmarried males between 18 and 35, for foreign service. It provides that the enlistees will be paid one-half the rates of pay for corresponding grades for US enlisted men. It prohibits domestic service for members of this "Freedom Corps."

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4. After first outlining in general terms the CIA needs which could be met through the use of enlistees in the "Freedom Corps," Mr. [REDACTED] made the following suggestions as to changes in the provisions of the present draft:

a. That the draft be changed to permit the enlistment of married as well as unmarried males. This, he explained, would permit access to a larger number of individuals who would be desirable from CIA's point of view.

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b. The prohibition now in the bill against domestic service should be changed in order to permit such service in the discretion of the Secretary of the Army for limited periods of training.

c. That it would be undesirable to provide in the legislation that enlistees be paid in accordance with the 90% rule, and that it would be better to seek this result administratively.

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5. In response to Mr. Goodrich's question, [REDACTED] estimated that CIA might be interested, as a maximum number, in having enlisted for CIA purposes up to 10,000 Eastern Europeans in the "Freedom Corps."

6. Mr. Frank Nash, Office of the Secretary of Defense, joined the meeting in order to suggest that the draft was now receiving such a wide range of departmental and agency comment that it might be desirable to handle it as an administration bill. He noted the relationship between the bill and the recent NSC paper on manpower and raised the question of whether the principle of the bill should be considered by NSC prior to its introduction by Senator Lodge. This question was discussed but no agreement was reached.

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7. Mr. Goodrich stated that the Joint Chiefs were preparing comment on the draft. In view of this, [REDACTED] and I called on Colonel Hopkins, JSPD, JCS (Admiral Stevens was away) to inform Colonel Hopkins of the nature of General Smith's letter and of the discussion with Mr. Goodrich.

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